



ABHYAS: High-speed Expendable Aerial Target

Why in News

Recently, The [Defence Research and Development Organisation](#) (DRDO) successfully flight-tested **Abhyas High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT)** from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, off the Bay of Bengal coast in Odisha.

- DRDO is the **Research & Development wing of the Ministry of Defence**, Govt of India, with a vision to empower India with cutting-edge defence technologies.

Key Points

- **Designed and developed by:** [//](#)



- Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), of DRDO.
 - ADE is a key Aeronautical Systems Design Laboratory under DRDO.
 - It is involved in the design and development of the state-of-the-art [Unmanned Aerial Vehicles \(UAV\)](#) and Aeronautical Systems and technologies to meet the requirements of the [Indian Armed forces](#).
- **Features**
 - It is powered by **a gas turbine engine to sustain a long endurance flight at subsonic speed.**
 - It is equipped with a **MEMS** (Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems)-based **Inertial Navigation System (INS)** for navigation along with the Flight Control Computer (FCC) for guidance and control.
 - The vehicle is **programmed for fully autonomous flight** and their check-out is done using a laptop-based Ground Control Station (GCS).
- **Utility:**
 - It will be **used as a target for the evaluation of various missile systems.**
 - It offers a **realistic threat scenario** for practice of weapon systems.

▪ **Other Recent Developments:**

- **In September 2021**, the DRDO tested a new version of the [Akash Missile - 'Akash Prime'](#) – from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.
- **In July 2021**, DRDO launched the [Akash-NG \(New Generation\)](#) and the Man Portable Anti Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM).
- **In June 2021** a new generation nuclear capable ballistic missile [Agni-P \(Prime\)](#) was successfully test-fired by the DRDO.
- **In February 2021** India also successfully test-fired indigenously-developed anti-tank guided missile systems '[Helina](#)' and '[Dhruvastra](#)'.
- **In October 2020**, the **DRDO** conducted a successful flight test of the [Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo \(SMART\)](#) from Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha.

[Source: PIB](#)

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